

(12)

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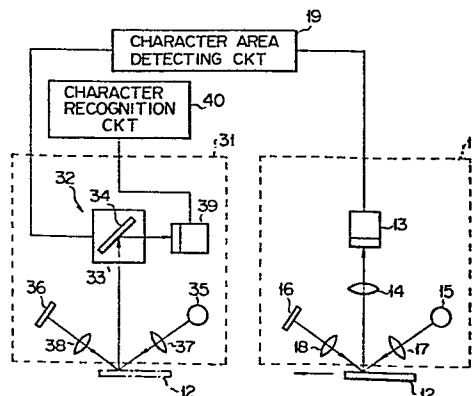
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(54) **Character optical reader.**

(57) The image of whole surface of a mail matter (12) is roughly scanned by a first scanner (13). The position of character area of the mail matter (12) is detected by the image signals of the first scanner (13). The image of the character area detected is optically picked up by a galvanometer (32) to project to a second scanner (39) and closely scanned by the second scanner (39) and a character recognition circuit (40) serves to recognize characters in the character area by character signals of the second scanner (39).

FIG. 1





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int Cl ³)
A	--- US-A-3 846 753 (SPANJERSBERG) *Abstract; column 4, line 67 - column 5, line 3; column 5, lines 45-49; column 6, lines 17-25; column 6, lines 65-68; column 7, lines 36-45; column 9, lines 33-37*	1,2	B 07 C 3/14 G 06 K 9/32
A	--- US-A-4 061 914 (GREEN) *Column 3, line 26 - column 4, line 13; column 5, line 63 - column 6, line 12; figures 1,5*	1,2	
A	--- US-A-4 158 835 (MIURA et al.)	1,2	
A	--- US-A-4 034 341 (ISONO et al.)	1,2	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int Cl³)
A	--- L'ONDE ELECTRIQUE, vol. 46, no. 477, December 1966, pages 1370-1383, Paris (FR); M.BORDES et al.: "Un système de lecture automatique de caractères dactylographiés". *Pages 1377-1380* -----	1,2	B 07 C 3 G 06 K 7 G 06 K 9
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 19-01-1983	Examiner HARMS J.O
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	